PATENT
09/899,604

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1 1. (original) In a computer controlled user interactive
2 display system, a display interface implementation for
3 directing a user's attention to specific selectable items on
4 a display screen with crowded selectable items comprising;
5   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
6 to approach said selectable items; and
7   means for highlighting all items in any set of a plu-
8 rality of said items wherein each item in the set is within
9 a predetermined distance of said approaching pointer.

1 2. (original) The computer controlled user interactive
2 display system of claim 1 wherein said selectable items are
3 icons.

1 3. (currently amended) The computer controlled user interac-
2 tive display system of claim 2 further including means for
3 ending said highlighting of each of ~~said~~ any highlighted
4 icons when the pointer moves outside of said predetermined
5 distance
6 for said icon.

1 4. (currently amended) The computer controlled user interac-
2 tive display system of claim 2 further including means for
3 ending said highlighting of each of ~~said~~ any highlighted
4 icons after a predetermined period of time.

1 5. (original) The computer controlled user interactive
2 display system of claim 2 wherein said means for highlight-
3 ing sequentially highlight each icon in said set.

AUS920010336US1   3

1 6. (original) The computer controlled user interactive
2 display system of claim 2:
3   wherein said means for sequentially highlighting said
4 set of icons highlight each icon in the set for a defined
5 period of time; and
6   further including means for enabling the user selection
7 of each sequentially highlighted item during said period of
8 time.

1 7. (original) The computer controlled user interactive
2 display system of claim 6 wherein the icons in said set
3 overlap each other.

1 8. (original) A method for directing a user's attention to
2 specific selectable items on a display screen with crowded
3 selectable items in computer controlled user interactive
4 display systems comprising:
5   moving an on-screen pointer to approach said selectable
6 items; and
7   highlighting all items in any set of a plurality of
8 said items wherein each item in the set is within a prede-
9 termined distance of said approaching pointer.

1 9. (original) The method of claim 8 wherein said selectable
2 items are icons.

1 10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 further in-
2 cluding the step of ending said highlighting of each of ~~said~~
3 any highlighted icons when the pointer is moved outside of
4 said predetermined distance for said icon.

1 11. (currently amended) The method of claim 9 further in-
2 cluding the step of ending said highlighting of each of any
3 ~~said~~ highlighted icons after a predetermined period of time.

AUS920010336US1   4

PATENT
09/899,604

1   12. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein said step of
2   highlighting sequentially highlights each item in said set.

1   13. (original) The method of claim 9 wherein said step of
2   sequentially highlighting said set of icons highlight each
3   icon in the set for a defined period of time; and
4   further including the step of enabling the user selec-
5   tion of each sequentially highlighted item during said
6   period of time.

1   14. (original) The method of claim 13 wherein the icons in
2   said set overlap each other.

1   15. (original) A computer program having program code in-
2   cluded on a computer readable medium for directing a user's
3   attention to specific selectable items on a display screen
4   with crowded selectable items in computer controlled user
5   interactive display systems comprising:
6   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
7   to approach said selectable items; and
8   means for highlighting all items in any set of a plu-
9   rality of said items wherein each item in the set is within
10 a predetermined distance of said approaching pointer.

1   16. (original The computer program of claim 15 wherein said
2   selectable items are icons.

1   17. (currently amended) The computer program of claim 16
2   further including means for ending said highlighting of each
3   of said any highlighted icons when the pointer moves outside
4   of said predetermined distance for said icon.

AUS920010336US1   5

1   18. (currently amended) The computer program of claim 16
2   further including means for ending said highlighting of each
3   of ~~said~~ <u>any</u> highlighted icons after a predetermined period
4   of time.

1   19. (original) The computer program of claim 16 wherein said
2   means for highlighting sequentially highlights each icon in
3   said set.

1   20. (original) The computer program of claim 16 wherein said
2   means for sequentially highlighting said set of icons
3   highlight each icon in the set for a defined period of time;
4   and
5   further including means enabling the user selection of
6   each sequentially highlighted item during said period of
7   time.

1   21. (original) The computer program of claim 20 wherein the
2   icons in said set overlap each other.

1   22. (original) In a computer controlled user interactive
2   display system, a display interface implementation for
3   directing a user's attention to specific selectable items on
4   a display screen with crowded selectable items comprising:
5   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
6   to approach a cluster of said selectable items; and
7   means for sequentially highlighting each item in said
8   cluster when said approaching pointer is within a
9   predetermined distance from said cluster.

AUS920010336US1   6

PATENT
09/899,604

1   23. (original) In a computer controlled user interactive
2   display system, a display interface implementation for
3   directing a user's attention to specific selectable items on
4   a display screen with crowded selectable items comprising:
5   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
6   to approach a cluster of said selectable items;
7   means for determining whether the items in said cluster
8   have sufficient separation for said pointer to select
9   separate items in said cluster; and
10   means responsive to said determining means for
11 sequentially highlighting each item in said cluster when
12 there is insufficient separation.

1   24. (original) The computer controlled user interactive
2   display system of claim 23 wherein each item is activated
3   for selection when highlighted.

1   25. (original) A method for directing a user's attention to
2   specific selectable items on a display screen with crowded
3   selectable items in computer controlled user interactive
4   display systems comprising:
5   moving an on-screen pointer to approach a cluster of
6   said selectable items; and
7   sequentially highlighting each item in said cluster
8   when said approaching pointer is within a predetermined
9   distance from said cluster.

AUS920010336US1   7

PATENT
09/899,604

1   26. (original) A method for directing a user's attention to
2   specific selectable items on a display screen with crowded
3   selectable items in computer controlled user interactive
4   display systems comprising:
5   moving an on-screen pointer to approach a cluster of
6   said selectable items;
7   determining whether the items in said cluster have
8   sufficient separation for said pointer to select separate
9   items in said cluster; and
10   sequentially highlighting each item in said cluster
11 responsive to a determination that there is insufficient
12 separation.

1   27. (original) The method of claim 26 wherein each item is
2   activated for selection when highlighted.

1   28. (original) A computer program having program code
2   included on a computer readable medium for directing a
3   user's attention to specific selectable items on a display
4   screen with crowded selectable items in computer controlled
5   user interactive display systems comprising:
6   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
7   to approach a cluster of said selectable items; and
8   means for sequentially highlighting each item in said
9   cluster when said approaching pointer is within a
10 predetermined distance from said cluster.

AUS920010336US1   8

PATENT
09/899,604

1 29. (original) A computer program having program code
2 included on a computer readable medium for directing a
3 user's attention to specific selectable items on a display
4 screen with crowded selectable items in computer controlled
5 user interactive display systems comprising:
6   user controlled means for moving an on-screen pointer
7 to approach a cluster of said selectable items;
8   means for determining whether the items in said cluster
9 have sufficient separation for said pointer to select
10 separate items in said cluster; and
11   means responsive to said determining means for
12 sequentially highlighting each item in said cluster when
13 there is insufficient separation.

1 30. (original) The computer program of claim 29 wherein each
2 item is activated for selection when highlighted.

AUS920010336US1   9